to a second representation

Serial No.: 10/712,729

Reply to Office action of May 9, 2006

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Date of Transmission

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.

: 10/712,729

Applicant

: David Charles Pender et al.

Filed

: November 12, 2003

Title

: SYSTEM AND SUPPORT ROD ASSEMBLY FOR SINTERING

FIBER OPTIC SLEEVE TUBES

Art Unit

: 1731

Confirmation No. : 9280

Examiner : Queenie S. Dehghan

: 128518-1

Docket No. : 128518-Customer No. : 006147

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION (In compliance with 37 CFR § 1.114)

Mail Stop After Final Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on May 9, 2006, please consider the following amendments and remarks.

Amendment to the specification begins on page 2 of this reply.

Listing of the Claims begins on page 3 of this reply.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this reply.